

Message Text

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43

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ARAE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 SSC-01 AID-05 PC-01 SR-02

ORM-01 IO-10 /069 W

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O R 151632Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2903

INFO AMEMBASSY ASUNCION

AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

AMEMBASSY LA PAZ

AMEMBASSY LIMA

AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO

USCINCSO

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SANTIAGO 2676

EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: PGOV, PINT, CI

SUBJECT: NEW CABINET INSTALLED

REF: A) SANTIAGO 2226 B) SANTIAGO 2155

1. SUMMARY: NEW CABINET INSTALLED AFTERNOON APRIL 14 CONTAINS FOUR NEW FACES, ALL CIVILIAN, REPLACING THREE MILITARY AND ONE CIVILIAN IN PREVIOUS CABINET, FOR NEW TOTALS OF ELEVEN MILITARY AND SIX CIVILIAN MINISTERS. IN ADDITION, CIVILIANS REPLACED MILITARY OFFICERS AS PRESIDENT OF CENTRAL BANK AND VICE PRESIDENT (OPERATING CHIEF) CORFO. END SUMMARY.

2. NEW MINISTERS ARE:

A. ECONOMY - SERGIO DE CASTRO SPIKULA (43). HE HAS BEEN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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MOST RECENTLY UNDERSECY FOR ECONOMIC PROGRAMMING IN THAT

MINISTRY. ECONOMIST OF THE "CHICAGO SCHOOL," HE HAS BEEN MAINLY IN CHARGE OF MINISTRY'S DAY-TO-DAY OPERATIONS. REPLACES FERNANDO LENIZ.

B. PUBLIC WORKS - HUGO LEON PUELMA (50). CIVIL ENGINEER, HEAD OF A PRIVATE FORESTRY PRODUCTS ENTERPRISE, WAS HEAD OF CHAMBER OF CONSTRUCTION DURING MUCH OF ALLENDE PERIOD, A LEADING "GREMIALISTA." THIS IS HIS FIRST GOVERNMENT POST. REPLACES AIR FORCE GEN. SERGIO FIGUEROA.

C. HOUSING - CARLOS GRANIFO HARMS (49). CIVIL ENGINEER, ACTIVE IN CHAMBER OF CONSTRUCTION, WAS HEAD OF HOUSING INSTITUTE (CORVI) IN ALESSANDRI GOVERNMENT. REPLACES NAVY ADMIRAL ARTURO TRONCOSO.

D. JUSTICE - MIGUEL SCHWEITZER SPEISKY (66). DISTINGUISHED LAW PROFESSOR AND HEAD OF PENAL LAW RESEARCH INSTITUTE. WAS MINISTER OF LABOR IN JORGE ALESSANDRI ADMINISTRATION. REPLACES CARABINERO GEN. HUGO MUSANTE.

3. OLD MINISTERS REMAINING IN POSTS ARE:

A. INTERIOR - ARMY GEN. RAUL BENAVIDES.

B. FOREIGN RELATIONS - ADM. PATRICIO CARVAJAL.

C. DEFENSE - ARMY GEN. HERMAN BRADY.

D. FINANCE - JORGE CAUAS, "SUPERMINISTER" OVER ECONOMIC AREA.

E. EDUCATION - ADM. HUGO CASTRO.

F. AGRICULTURE - CARABINERO GEN. TUCAPEL VALLEJOS.

G. LANDS AND COLONIZATION - CARABINERO GEN. MARIO MACKAY.

H. LABOR - AIR FORCE GEN. NICANOR DIAZ.

I. HEALTH - AIR FORCE GEN (RETIRED) FRANCISCO HERRERA.

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J. MINING - ARMY GEN. AUGUSTIN TORO.

K. TRANSPORTATION - ARMY GEN. (RETIRED) ENRIQUE GARIN.

L. ECONOMIC COORDINATION - RAUL SAEZ (BUT NOW LIMITED PRIMARILY TO HANDLING EXTERNAL FINANCIAL NEGOTIATIONS WHILE CAUAS RUNS ECONOMIC SECTOR.).

M. SEC GEN OF GOVT - ARMY GEN HERNAN BEJARES.

4. CHANGES IN POSTS CONSIDERED EQUAL TO CABINET LEVEL ARE:

A. CORFO - FRANCISCO SOZA COUSINO (58). CIVIL ENGINEER, FORMER PRESIDENT OF CHAMBER OF CONSTRUCTION, NO PREVIOUS KNOWN GOVERNMENT EXPERIENCE. REPLACES ARMY GEN. JAVIER PALACIOS, WHO WAS RECENTLY PROMOTED TO MAJOR GENERAL.

B. PRESIDENT OF CENTRAL BANK - PABLO BARAONA URZUA (39). ALTHOUGH NOT TECHNICALLY CABINET RANK, POSITION IS ESPECIALLY IMPORTANT GIVEN NEW EMPHASIS ON ECONOMIC POLICY. BARAONIA IS CONSERVATIVE ECONOMIST OF "CHICAGO SCHOOL," MOST RECENTLY VICE PRESIDENT OF CENTRAL BANK. REPLACES ARMY GEN. (RETIRED) EDUARDO CANO.

5. IN ROUTINE MANNER, UNDER SECRETARIES OF ALL MINISTRIES SUBMITTED RESIGNATIONS APRIL 14.

6. BEFORE ANNOUNCEMENT OF CABINET CHANGES, PRESIDENT PINOCHET BRIEFED CORPS OF GENERALS AND ADMIRALS.

7. COMMENT: TO MAKE ROOM FOR INCREASED CIVILIAN PARTICIPATION IN CABINET, A THEME REPEATEDLY MENTIONED IN EVENTS SURROUNDING THIS CABINET LEVEL CHANGE (REF A), EACH MILITARY SERVICE EXCEPT ARMY GAVE UP ONE CABINET POST. ARMY LOST NO MINISTRY BUT GAVE UP TOP JOBS IN CORFO AND CENTRAL BANK.

8. NEW CIVILIANS, WITH EXCEPTION OF SCHWEITZER, ARE TECHNICIANS FROM PRIVATE SECTOR WITH NO KNOWN POLITICAL AFFILIATIONS (ALTHOUGH PRESUMABLY CONSERVATIVE). PUELMA AND GRANIFO ARE AFFILIATED WITH THE PROFESSIONAL AND BUSINESS ASSOCIATIONS, OR "GREMIOS". ADDITION OF SCHWEITZER MAY BE GESTURE TO THOSE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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FORCES CALLING FOR MODIFICATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS PRACTICES, ALTHOUGH JUSTICE PORTFOLIO IS NOT PARTICULARLY POWERFUL IN THIS AREA. EXCEPT FOR THREE SENIOR ECONOMIC POSITIONS, MILITARY CONTINUE TO OCCUPY ALL IMPORTANT OR SENSITIVE MINISTRIES.

9. IT IS QUITE POSSIBLE THAT THE JUNTA COULD LATER DECIDE TO REPLACE OTHER MILITARY MINISTERS, WITHOUT REDUCING IN ANY SIGNIFICANT WAY THE MILITARY CONTROL OF THE GOC. SUCH MINISTRIES AS HEALTH, TRANSPORTATION, AND LANDS AND PERHAPS AGRICULTURE COULD BE ATTRACTIVE AREAS TO PLACE MORE CIVILIANS, WHILE RETAINING THE KEY POSTS OF INTERIOR, FOREIGN RELATIONS, DEFENSE, EDUCATION, MINES AND SEC GEN FOR MILITARY OFFICERS. POPPER

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